

## **2007 Progress Report of the Network (Research Center) for Combating Domestic Violence of China Law Society**

### **I. Project objectives and working plan (see the application plan)**

#### **1.1 Project activities:**

- (1) Integrate anti-domestic violence (DV) website and Research Center to create an anti-DV Information database.
- (2) Conduct advocacy in legislation and justice, male participation and medical intervention
- (3) Continue training on social gender awareness and anti-DV capacity
- (4) Establish a talent reserve for anti-DV campaign
- (5) Organize members of the Network for Combating Domestic Violence (hereafter, “the Network”) to implement some small projects through bidding, including promoting community justice and law enforcement, supporting anti-domestic violence education in school and building a support system for battered women.

#### **1.2 Project objectives and outcomes:**

Promote the growth of the Network and improve its management; change social attitudes and relevant systems to better support women victims and contribute to a larger anti-DV movement.

#### **1.3 Progress indicators:**

- Expanded coverage and enhanced voice of the Network.
- Improved management capacity of the Network.
- More participation by parties involved to combat domestic violence, including men, law enforcement personnel, women victims and abusers.
- Completing the revision of the proposed draft of the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence.
- Encouraging two to three provinces to launch provincial anti-DV legislation or enforcement rules of Law of the PRC on the Protection of Rights and Interests of Women.

### **II. Background**

#### **2.1 Project background**

The Network project started in 2000. After phase I (2000-2003) and phase II (2003-2006) were completed, the project ushers in its third phase (2007-2010).

Great changes have taken place in China’s anti-DV campaign during the project phases. Forces against DV come into a movement. Domestic violence is no longer regarded as a personal matter; more and more people begin to care about and fight against the abuse; anti-DV legislation is launched in 25 provinces and cities; comprehensive intervention system is established in some pilot regions through multi-agency cooperation.

However, these changes are only the first few steps. China’s anti-DV movement needs further flourishing; victimized women need more legal aid and services; gender inequality, the origin of domestic violence needs to be rooted out. To make this happen, we need the government at all levels to shoulder more responsibilities and develop relevant policies and budget plans.

In 2007, the beginning year of phase III, we need to note the following facts:

### **1. Nine ministries plan to sign a document on prevention of domestic violence**

After Marriage Law, Law on the Protection of Rights and Interests of Women and local legislation in 25 provinces identified prohibition of domestic violence, nine ministries including All-China Women's Federation (ACWF), Ministry of Public Security and the Supreme Court of PRC planned to introduce a document on prevention of domestic violence in 2007. Although a red tape with weak applicability and delay, it still sends a strong message by showcasing the will of relevant bodies.

### **2. Government reshuffle and personnel changes**

From the second half of 2007 to early 2008, governments at all levels in China have experienced reshuffle and personnel changes. Therefore, we may face more uncertainties in the project year 2008. For example, focus shift in our work and change of partners, which are unpredictable at the beginning of the project, hard to change and may affect our progress.

### **3. Small changes to Network management model**

Phase III have made the following changes: in order to strengthen the Network's core function based on strategic planning, put website, Research Center and training under direct management of the organization; organize bidding for all the activities not directly managed by the Network to make project management more scientific.

In organizational structure, the Network has established two special working groups-project bidding group and human resources group, responsible for the project bidding and recruitment of new staff respectively. The two groups consist of board members, management and Network members, plus external experts to the bidding group.

## **2.2 Reporting background**

### **Reporting time:**

Our project is funded by NOVIB, Ford Foundation, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NCHR). Due to the different approval time by different donors, the project period varies. NOVIB and Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NCHR) set it at Jan, 2007 - Dec, 2009 while Ford Foundation and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) put it at Mar, 2007 - Feb, 2010, leaving two months' difference.

Like the previous two phases, phase III shall submit report to the four donors. For the sake of reporting and computing and fairness to all the donors, we regard the project period as Jan, 2007 - Feb, 2010, 38 months altogether. The first project year proceeds from Jan, 2007 to Feb, 2008, lasting 14 months.

### **Submission date:**

Responding to NOVIB's requirement and agreed by all donors, the project report shall be submitted within one month of the end of the project year, or ahead of March 31<sup>st</sup>; financial statements and auditor's report are due within three months of the end of the project year, or before May 31<sup>st</sup>.

The 2007 report came after the release of new guidelines for reporting. We have to spend some time adjusting to the language and financial statement requirement, which causes the delay of submission. We apologize for this.

### **III. Impact**

The Network has always attached great importance to its growth and management since its birth. It aims to transform the traditional view that domestic violence is personal matter and strives for law and policy changes. Thanks to its productive work, the development of Chinese civil society and anti-DV campaign are promoted. The Network's social impact assessment report (James Harkness and Chan Yu, 2006) expounds this aspect.

The Network's social impact can be summed up in the following aspects:

#### **Impact One**

**120, 000 people signed online and 1 million visited the anti-DV forum to voice opposition against domestic violence. A variety of reach-out activities were held to mobilize the young and male to make an effort.**

Changing social attitude and encouraging more people to combat domestic violence is one of the major objectives and highlights of the Network. We attracted more people, especially the young and male in particular to counter domestic violence through a wide range of publicity activities in 2007.

On the International Day For the elimination of Violence against Women in 2007, we worked with NetEase, one of the three major internet portals in China to call for people to sign on "No violence, only love". Just in three months, the signatures numbered 125, 000, well surpassing our expected 100,000.

Apart from collecting signatures, we also opened an anti-DV internet forum cooperated with NetEase where typical cases were presented and experts were invited to interact with bedizens. Over 1 million people browsed the forum and 10,000 people expressed their opinion. More and more young people heard the voice against gender violence through the internet, clearing the way for transforming public opinion.

The Network invited experts to give lectures in Tsinghua University and Capital Normal University and image ambassadors to attend anti-gender-violence poster, logo and slogan collection programs so that the campaign could be more receptive to the young.

Our activities show that young people's enthusiasm is enormous if well awakened. When image ambassador, actor Wang Xuebing spoke on fighting against domestic violence in Tsinghua University, the students present warmly echoed his remarks.

Our creative activities in 2007-collecting 125,000 signatures, campus reach-out and online discussions-expanded the work scope of the Network and drew attention from the media. Over 40 media covered our work.

#### **Impact Two**

**25 provinces have launched provincial anti-DV legislations, a prelude to national legislation; women receive lighter sentence for violence-against-violence cases.**

Pushing for the anti-DV legislation in China is one of the most important achievements of the Network. China's legislation in this regard started from scratches. Prohibition of domestic violence was first written in Marriage Law and Law on the

Protection of Rights and Interests of Women, then 25 provincial legislations and the proposed draft of Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence submitted to the 10<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress and the yet to be signed document by nine ministries. The Network has made great contribution in this process.

As a NGO, the Network pushes forward legislation through two channels: one is to influence public opinion and decision-making through large-scale publicity programs; the other is to let the experts among the Network members play an effective role by recommending them to directly engage in the drafting and revision of laws or consulting them in local legislations. Women's federations at all levels are important partners to us.

Presently as the 11<sup>th</sup> NPC begins its term, there is an increasingly louder call for the launch of a specialized DV-prevention law. Signs show that the call from civil society is claiming more and more attention from relevant bodies.

In judicial area, we have organized training and discussion programs for police, judges and other relevant groups to promote the implementation of laws and regulations and better protect women victims. For example, public security bureau in Changsha city and Liaoning province developed regulations for the police in dealing with domestic violence cases; lighter sentence for women involved in violence-against-violence cases also becomes a trend.

### **Impact Three**

**Multi-agency cooperation and intervention model is now replicated in more areas.**

The multi-agency cooperation and intervention model initiated by the Network helps put a new coordinating and responding mechanism in place so that victims can get better supportive services. This model is now being replicated in many rural areas and urban communities.

### **Impact Four**

**By actively participating in domestic and international campaigns to eliminate violence against women, we showcase the enthusiasm and professionalism of NGOs to serve the society and build a good social reputation.**

This organization has actively participated in domestic and international campaigns to eliminate violence against women, integrating China's anti-DV movement into the international women's movement.

When UNIFEM championed the global signature campaign entitled "Say NO to Violence against Women" in 2007, as China's response, the Network launched a nationwide signature collection activity. Just in three months, 125,000 signatures were obtained, making China the country with most signatures. The UNIFEM headquarter specially made an announcement for this, speaking high of China's contribution (please see appendix 1).

In the anti-DV campaign, we have done a lot of creative and productive work which showcases the enthusiasm and professionalism of NGOs to serve the society and wins the recognition of the Chinese government. One training material compiled by the organization is cited in China's fifth and sixth report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The book, titled as A Training Book for the Police: Combating domestic violence against women, is

acknowledged as one of the accomplishments of China's anti-DV campaign. The Chinese government also highlights the role of the Network in the national report on Beijing Platform for Action (1995).

### **Impact Five**

**The Network has witnessed increase and diversification of membership and improved management. Growth of the Network explores ways for the development of China's NGOs and civil society.**

In 2007, the Network continued to grow, having more and diversified members and improving its management.

Apart its decision-making and supervisory functions, the board of members increased support to the management. The board charter were revised. New members from basic level and places outside Beijing were added into the board.

We pay great attention to the development and management of the organization, adopting the independent approach in external communications and democratic and transparent principles in internal management. As China undergoes transformation, the Network provides some experiences for building a civil society through its own activities. Some domestic NGOs also put the Network under case study. For example, the Structural Analysis of Member Participation and Power Distribution in NGOs-Taking the Network for Combating Domestic Violence as an Example (Song Zhiyuan, Social Sciences Academic Press(China)) published in China's Non-profit Studies (volume one, 2007,12).

## **IV. Progress**

### **4.1 Outcomes**

#### **Outcome One: Growth of the Network**

The Network grew bigger in 2007, exerted wider influence and improved its management.

We made major achievements in the following aspects:

As of early 2008, the organization had 112 individual members and 61 group members. Among the new group members, two were young people's voluntary service institutions.

The 2007 Network Conference was convened in Beijing on Dec 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, over 170 people and 55 group members present at the meeting. This conference focused on the role of police in domestic violence intervention, having police from Changsha, Harbin and Qingdao to share their practices and thoughts. Exchanges were also conducted through the conference and workshops on violence against children, gender violence among those with AIDS or Hepatitis B, psychological therapy for abusers, male participation and advocacy strategies. One of our outcomes in 2006, a documentary about the anti-DV history in China was shown. Also at the conference, the Network advocated and launched large-scale publicity campaign for collecting 100,000 netizens' signatures against gender violence.

The Network completed the planned project bidding in 2007. 43 institutions submitted their proposals, 16 won tenders for 10 projects (one was a joint-project implemented by seven bidders) after two rounds of selection. The total bidding values RMB 700,000, 8,000-100,000 for each project. The projects were mostly about justice and law enforcement, adolescent education and support for battered

women-priorities set by the strategic planning. To improve the project management, the Network trained the chiefs of the 16 bidding institutions on social gender, project management and financial management. The projects were managed through contracts which specified the project item and use of fund (project name, counterpart, please see the appendix 2). A short-term small project implemented by Capital Normal University was already closed in Feb 2008. The remaining RMB150, 000 will be used for bidding in 2008.

We realized computerized accounting in 2007 and now are planning a financial management guideline, the draft of which has been discussed by the management.

In terms of human resources, we devoted a lot of energy in recruiting staff. Eight candidates were included in the shortlist in three recruitment programs and two of them finally joined us. Presently the organization has six staff and a vacant post for vice-director. Three staff received a three-week intensive English training in 2007.

### **Outcome Two: Information database.**

Combining the website and Research Center to create a specialized and efficient information database is an important outcome of phase III.

The Network website started to change its version in 2007 to increase its accessibility. Now the process is going on. Many columns are still to be expanded.

To prevent cyber squatting, we registered [www.stopdv.cn](http://www.stopdv.cn) and [www.stopdv.net](http://www.stopdv.net) in addition to the original [www.stopdv.org.cn](http://www.stopdv.org.cn). These three domain names will all lead to our website as soon as version changes are completed.

The completion of the English version will be delayed till some time into 2008 due to staff changes.

### **Outcome Three: Legislative and judicial progress**

To ensure the law on prevention of domestic violence part of the 11<sup>th</sup> NPC legislative plan, revision of the proposed draft is given great priority in the legislative and judiciary advocacy campaign of phase III. Work for 2007 is completed on time and progress is made, including:

The revision panel is set, including seven academics from China University of Political Science and Law, China Women's University and Institution of Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and relevant research has begun.

In one successful bidding project, Women's Federation of Hunan province and Higher Court of Hunan province cooperated to plan a trial guideline for domestic violence so that judges could hear cases correctly. Currently the two organizations have conducted training on social gender and anti-DV laws for judges involved and gathered relevant cases. It is safe to say that with the end of the project in Hunan, judicial practices there will set an example to facilitate correct trial in other places.

### **Outcome Four: Social gender and anti-DV training**

Conducting training on social gender has always been an important focus of the Network. There remains requirement for such training towards those involved in the project in phase III.

Our training targeted at newly-recruited staff, members of the revision panel and chiefs of 16 projects in 2007.

Among the bidding projects, Hunan and Zhuxi, Hubei province conducted training

towards local judges and police; Qianxi, Hebei province and Hainan trained staff working in schools and educational authorities.

### **Outcome Five: Medical intervention**

Pilot program of medical intervention is one of the highlights in the work of the Network. Based on our experiences over the last six years, we aim to spread and systemize this intervention in a wider area in phase III.

Against the background of medical reform, we face such important questions as how to make breakthroughs in medical intervention advocacy and find the right partners. We are closely following developments in this regard as they are crucial to reach our objectives.

We took a cautious approach in medical intervention advocacy in 2007 by postponing the survey completion into 2008 and focusing on demand appraisal and consultation. Two consultancy forums were held with parties involved present, including representatives from NGOs and government officials to share information and enhance exchanges.

### **Outcome Six: Male participation advocacy and support for battered women**

Expanding male participants and inviting more influential public figures to white ribbon voluntary activities is one of the three major advocacies of phase III project.

The Network and CCTV-12 co-organized the white ribbon voluntary activity in Youanmen Street, Fengtai District, Beijing. As white ribbon messengers, seven actors and TV presenters reached out to the community with university students to advocate participation in elimination of violence against women. There were stage performances, interactions and exchanges, reading advocacy papers and signature collections which really evoked the passion of those present.

As a partner of the Network, CCTV-12's Legal Service for You made a special program entitled "Anti-DV: Relay Race for All". It presented interview with officials from All-China Women's Federation (ACWF), visit to a women's jail in Yunnan by our anti-DV ambassador Wang Tong and campaign of white ribbon volunteers in communities. The 40-minute-long program broadcasted in prime time on CCTV produced a great impact on the public mind.

In terms of support for battered women, the Network began a questionnaire survey through a project co-implemented by seven institutions. 420 questionnaires will be gathered to analyze the supports and services women victims needed. Currently the questionnaires are being filled and processed and the analysis is due to be finished by the end of 2008.

### **Outcome Seven: Discussion of hot topics**

The provisions on prohibiting sexual harassment in the Amendment to the Law on the Protection of Rights and Interests of Women in 2005 are too inapplicable to protect suffered women. Whether this can be changed is of great concern to the public. Having held a workshop on workplace sexual harassment (2006) in phase II, the Network organized experts to prepare a proposal for judicial interpretation of sexual harassment in phase III so as to urge the Supreme People's Court to introduce an official interpretation and make up for the deficiency in legislation

The Network submitted the proposed judicial interpretation to the Proposal

Committee of the People's Congress through NPC deputies and CPPCC members in March 2007 and 2008 respectively. As to the 2007 motion, the Supreme People's Court already responded to the sponsor, saying they would continue to follow the issue. The 2008 motion, because of recent submission there is not yet received feedbacks.

During preparation of the proposed judicial interpretation, the Network convened a number of workshops attended by experts, judges, lawyers and representatives from NGOs. Participants acquired more knowledge about the judicial interpretation through face to face interaction. The representatives show more inclination to the proposal. Apart from that, it did much publicity work through media to draw attention from relevant departments. China News Services, People's Court Daily, Procuratorial Daily, China Women's News, Beijing News, Beijing Morning Post and Beijing Evening Post all ran wide coverage about the workshops and the proposal.

### **Outcome Eight: Vivid and effective publicity program**

Conducting gender equality education towards adolescents and mobilizing more young people into anti-DV campaign is both an important objective and an important appraisal indicator of phase III.

The Network worked with NetEase, one of the three major internet portals in China to launch the "No Violence, Only Love" online signature collection campaign to combat gender violence, through which, good publicity results were achieved (see appendix 3 and Impact Four in this report).

On top of the signature collection, we also opened an anti-DV forum on women's channel of NetEase, presenting typical cases and organizing experts to comment and interact with netizens. Statistics shows the hits totaled 1 million and over 10,000 people left messages.

### **Outcome Nine: Investigation and Research**

It is an undisputable fact that anti-DV movement in China has made considerable progress. However, lack of statistics, investigation and fundamental theoretical research is equally visible.

To make up for the insufficient anti-DV research information, the organization compiled the 2007 anti-DV report summing up basic facts in legislative and judicial intervention, legal aid, psychological therapy, media advocacy, medical intervention, male participation, shelter and relief, medical research. This report which aimed to make an overall description of China's domestic violence intervention has now taken shape and will be released before Women's Day in 2008.

In the first place, the report was not part of the project plan. However, given its importance and necessity, we reported to the board of members for compilation. And finally 30,000 Yuan which the network had reserved for special operations was used for this purpose.

### **Outcome Ten: Domestic and international exchanges**

Along with the domestic and international exchanges, the network has grown rapidly; as its influence increases, its role in domestic and international NGOs also enhances.

In April 2007, we sent two representatives to Taiwan for a cross-strait training

program about NGO management. As a follow-up, at the invitation of a Taiwan NGO, a delegation of 15 members will head to Taiwan for a study tour and exchange experiences on the prevention of domestic violence. At present, various procedures have been roughly completed.

In February 2008, the network sent representatives to India on a study tour as six countries in South Asia were conducting a large-scale advocacy campaign entitled "We Can" to combat gender violence.

## **4.2 Risk**

As to the four major risks expected in "opportunity and risk appraisal", the Network adopts the following measures:

### **Risk One**

Within a transitional society, this is the most possible risk. Moreover, phase III coincides with a new government. In medical advocacy, we face a huge challenge to push gender issue into the agenda of medical authorities. This is even more difficult job against a background of national medical reform. Therefore, we take a strategy of close observation and careful selection of partners. The pace of progress will temporarily be affected; however, we have to bear it to find right partners for success.

### **Risk Two**

Frankly speaking, this risk was recently felt in the work of 2007. For example, job transition between departments and personnel allocation. Because of underestimate of the situation, we could not take action fast. Also our capacity for overall solutions needs to be strengthened. Fortunately, thanks to the team spirit of the organization, everyone of us, whether he/she is network member, staff or board member works for the good of our cause at critical moments. Therefore, there are no substantial losses up to now.

In 2008, the Network management will facilitate the job transition between departments and improve efficiency so as to strengthen coordination and communication and further develop the management model.

### **Risk Three**

In 2007, the organization strengthened its financial management. Financial statements realized computing; budget awareness was enhanced in project management. In 2008, we aim to further hone professional skills and improve financial management. It should be noted that, there was a specific endowment sponsored by NOVIB for financial consultant in order to enhance the financial capacity of the Network. However, we hired a temporary financial consultant for haven't found the right candidate. The Network will search in a wider range for the consultant in 2008.

### **Risk Four**

The Network always gives great priority to fair and transparent allocation of funds. To evoke the enthusiasm of members and adhere to the principles of transparency and fairness, phase III project employed bidding method. We mainly took the following measures:

1. Setting up a working group for bidding, composed of board members, external experts and management. Bidding rules were made, including assessment principles, project selection criteria, and application procedures.
2. To ensure spreading and correct understanding of the bidding, we compiled “Guidelines for the Project Application”, release information on the Internet, and sent bidding notices to the members through e-mail.
3. To ensure the quality of bidding projects, we offered three days’ training to the successful bidder on social gender, project and financial management. In addition, we signed contracts specifying project objectives, project activities, progress monitoring, as well as financial management.

#### **4.3 Schedule variances**

According to project financial budget, schedule variances needed to explain in 2007 can be roughly divided into two categories:

##### **(1) Newly-added activities**

- A) Compiling anti-DV report 2007
- B) Online signature Collection against gender violence
- C) Questionnaire Survey on support for battered women
- D) Proposed judicial interpretation of sexual harassment
- E) Study tour to Taiwan and India

The above-mentioned activities are explained in 4.1 of the report. As to the financing of these activities, A was supported by the special operation fund of the Network budget; B was mainly financed by our partners while the Network only paid a small amount-experts expenses; C was co-financed by the Network and our partners: the Network shouldered expenses in questionnaire gathering and filling (in the joint project) and the partners, expenses in questionnaire analysis and report compilation; D and E were completely financed by our partners.

##### **(2) Behind-schedule activities**

###### **1. Four training programs organized by the training department of the Network did not take place.**

Two had to be postponed due to the schedule changes of the trainees; these meetings are now planned to convene in 2008. Another two will be replaced by seminars on training contents and training models, as with the further development of anti-DV campaign, the requirement for social gender training becomes more sophisticated, and the content and model of training have to be more relevant, especially to the different groups of professionals.

###### **2. Regional meeting for members**

It was one of the innovations in phase III to convene an annual small-scale regional meeting for members of the Network. We had planned to decide the organizer through application and approval process. However, when phase III project was officially approved in early 2007, many of our members already had made their working plan for the whole year. Therefore, some members hoped it could be postponed to 2008. So at the 2007 conference, we informed the members of the decision to hold it in the next year.

### **3. Seminar on hot topic**

In summer of 2007, media reported about the upcoming document to be signed by nine ministries. In a minute, the role of police in anti-DV intervention was put under the spotlight, generating heated debate. We had planned to convene a seminar on police and law enforcement as soon as the document was released so as to lead the public opinion and urge the document implementation. However, the signing of the paper did not proceed as expected, causing the delay of the seminar.

### **4. Appraisal guidelines**

The guidelines were designed to improve the project quality and establish an assessment system within the organization. We had planned to finish them by the end of the second year in phase III. However, we now consider it inappropriate, as many project biddings were not completed by 2007, lacking clear descriptions about the project and counterpart. Therefore we decided to start compiling in 2008 and finish in 2009 to make the guidelines more inclusive.

### **5. Capacity building**

According to the plan, the department of human resources was to conduct a capacity building activity in 2007. Because the newly enrolled staff was due to work by the second half of the year and the Network staff put most of its energy in organizing the 2007 Network Conference, the capacity building activity is postponed to 2008.

### **6. 100,000 USD grant for capacity building from NOVIB**

Because of the vacancy of the suitable candidates (fluent in both English and Chinese, well known in the fields of female and NGO) for the two programs of “materials and communication” and “advocacy and network”, which are concluded in the capacity building endowment sponsored by NOVIB, the relevant activities have not launched yet. The HR team will focus on this issue in 2008.

**V. Number of Participants**  
**Activities: Beneficiaries and Impacts**

Activity	Group of beneficiary(ies)	Number of beneficiary(ies)	Media coverage
Setting up law revision panel	Experts of Marriage Law and Civil Law from Renmin University and China University of Political Science and Law	7, 3 male and 4 female	
Outcome release and judicial interpretation seminar on workplace sexual harassment	Legal experts, NPC deputies and CPPCC members	25 participants, male 25%	11 media, including China Women's News, Beijing News and Beijing Evening Post
White ribbon voluntary activities in You'anmen Street	Actors, singers, presenters and university students	White ribbon messengers: 3 male and 3 female; Students from Capital University of Economics and Business: 20; Local residents: 1,000	CCTV-12: 40-minute program at 19:40 (Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2007) and 12:40 (Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2007) audience rating: 0.2% CCTV.COM: blog presenting pictures, articles and videos
2007 member conference	Network members	170 people, 55 agencies, male 10%	10 national mainstream media, including China News Service, Xinhua News Agency and China Youth Daily
Open anti-DV forum on 163.com of NetEase	General public	3000: 1,498 and 1,315 hits in November and December respectively, over 400 people participated in discussions	
Online signature collection	General public	125,000 signatures, direct beneficiaries at least 250,000	40 media, 11 respective online reports, including reports on <a href="http://www.humanrights.com.cn">www.humanrights.com.cn</a>
Questionnaire survey on support for battered women	Surveyors, survey instructor and respondents	220 direct beneficiaries	
Adolescent education	School head, faculty, and students	680, male faculty 30%	
Training program in community justice and law enforcement	Rural women, grassroots police, judges, women's federation	1500	

## **VI. Conclusion and lessons learnt**

### **Conclusions:**

Phase III project is progressing in line with the project objectives and working plan. Our mobilizing power and influence is markedly improved, which is closely related to the Network expansion and the more sophisticated and diversified approach it adopts. Work scopes and targets are increasingly expanded; the young are better reached than ever.

Voice for the launch of law on prevention of domestic violence is echoed by a growing number of people; as the 11<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress takes office, substantial progress in anti-DV legislation seems very likely.

Management of the organization are further refined; financial management, project management and human resources system will be revised and supplemented in phase III.

Besides the planned activities, the Network accomplished considerable newly-added activities for the needs of advocacy and publicity. It's sure that these activities not only accord with the target but also help to reach the goal of the Phase III

In order to ensure the completion of the project, the Network will increase human resources, adjust project progress, and strengthen monitoring, so that some postponed work can be completed in the next two project years.

### **Experiences and lessons learnt:**

**Cooperate with more organizations and institutions to grow stronger** This is one of the successful strategies in 2007. For example, in the online signature collection activity, we should say the participation of NetEase is essential to our success. As a well-known internet portal, its influence among netizens and its technological advantages are what we can't compete. The most important is, cooperation benefits both: 163.com (business) fulfilled its social corporate responsibilities; the Network (NGO) achieved the purpose of public advocacy and enhanced its social influence.

In project bidding, we also prioritized and encouraged cooperation. For example, we offered RMB100, 000, the highest amount of fund to a project entitled "Strengthening Judicial Protection for Battered Women", carried out by Women's Federation of Hunan Province and Higher People's Court of the Province. Interestingly, this project also attracted the attention of the gender theme group of the UN country office in China. After the bidding results were announced, they contacted us and expressed their willingness to co-finance. In the spirit of cooperation, we agreed that this project would be co-financed, co-managed by the Network and the United Nations gender theme group, and the fruits, shared by both. As a domestic NGO, it shows great significance that our project could get support, cooperation and finance of the United Nations agency. Also Hunan got more resources to enrich the project content and expand its scale. Obviously, this is a win-win for three parties.

Among the bidding projects, one is a "joint project" implemented by seven institutions, which because of its representation of cooperation, was "chosen" by Chinese Office of the American Bar Association. Apart from the original work of the

joint project, investigation about support and services for women victims would be moved forward, according to the Chinese Office.

**Strengthen research, as the in-depth development of anti-DV movement requires stronger theoretical foundation.** China's anti-DV movement has made great progress in public awareness and legislation, but the inadequate research, particularly the lack of basic research is a glaring problem. Shortage of forward-looking studies may bottleneck our development. If we were to achieve substantial legislative breakthroughs, have budget increases, persuade the NPC deputies to vote for the anti-DV law and win public support, we must have sound evidence and convincing arguments, not just enthusiasm or “loud voice”. We hope to strengthen research, including empirical and forward-looking research such as the collection and analysis of typical cases, the follow-up study of community intervention, the psychological analysis and behavior reform of abusers and the abused to ensure the sustainable development of the campaign. In this regard, the Network should take various ways to make up for the lack of research.

**Considering setting a special fund for anti-DV purposes** The Network originated from projects to become an institution. Particularly since phase II, the Network has contributed a lot to the development and standardization of the institution. However, as a NGO mainly relying on donations and project funds, it can not refrain from the constraints of projects. On one hand, project funds must be strictly used in accordance with the budget; On the other hand, as an institution, it also needs some independence and flexibility. Moreover, some of the major advocacy activities need good opportunities to flourish and immediate media feedback, which is very difficult to plan ahead. In a sense, opportunities come at random. For a NGO taking advocacy as its mission, a good publicity opportunity is not to be missed. Moreover, in major events related to the rights and interests of women, we can not, and shall not be “absent” or “silent”. Therefore, the Network is very grateful to the donors for allowing us set up a special operation fund with some flexibility. And the 2007 Anti-DV Report would be mission impossible without the fund.

Therefore, we are considering the possibility of establishing a special fund for some specific development of the organization, or for emergent anti-DV activities. The specific purposes can be discussed by all the parties.

We have already reported this idea in the submitted report on the short-term grant, hoping to take a small amount of the balance in phase as start-up capital, from which more funds will be raised.

Of course, this is only some initial thinking. We'd like to talk about it with our donors, if possible. We believe if the idea is approved, the Network will make strict institutional arrangements to ensure the money is well managed and properly used.

**Significant progress to achieve in 2008:**

1. Complete the revision of the draft law on prevention of domestic violence.
2. Rebuild and redesign the website, establish primarily the English website

3. Produce publicity on anti-DV and the Network.
4. Convene two regional conferences of network member
5. Discuss and explore new content and methods in training on anti-DV
6. Produce the Network financial development handbook and solicit opinions from network members
7. Establish male participants group outside Beijing
8. Organize 1-2 influential advocacy campaign

## **Appendix 1: UN news release**

### **More than 125,000 Chinese Add Names to *Say NO to Violence against Women Campaign***

#### ***Total Count of Supporters Now Close to 200,000 - Far Exceeds Challenge Grant by UN Foundation***

**For immediate release**

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**United Nations, New York/Beijing** - More than 125,000 people in China have signed on to UNIFEM's Internet-based advocacy campaign, *Say NO to Violence against Women* (<http://www.saynotoviolence.org/>). The signatures were collected on a separate web site created on a pro-bono basis by NetEase, one of China's leading Internet portals and content providers (<http://go.lady.163.com/vow/sites>). They were symbolically handed over to UNIFEM at a ceremony in Beijing today. This puts the total count of campaign supporters at close to 200,000.

"Through our daily online interactions with women, we found that many women, especially the young ones, suffer from domestic violence. We hope that through activities like this, NetEase can express its support to these women and take a stance against domestic violence," said Zhang Danping, Chief Editor of the Women's Section, where the sign-up page to the *Say NO* campaign is hosted.

One in three women and girls may be affected by violence. The *Say NO* campaign invites people to sign their names to a virtual book as an expression of public support and a call on decision-makers worldwide to make ending violence against women a top priority. The initiative will run until November 2008; it is designed to feed into and support UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's **campaign on the same issue**.

"The support through NetEase is a demonstration of corporate social responsibility," said Guo Ruixiang, National Coordinator of UNIFEM China. "It is an excellent example of how the private sector can contribute to pressing social issues. UNIFEM and its UN partners in China have been able to use the campaign platform provided by NetEase throughout the country to enhance awareness."

The collaboration was initially facilitated through the Anti-Domestic Violence Network of the China Law Society, a long-standing partner of UNIFEM. "We want to use the Internet to educate the general public, especially youth who are the majority of Internet users," said Chen Benjian, Director of the Anti-Domestic Violence Network about the motivation to get NetEase involved in the work on ending violence against women.

UNIFEM's Regional Programme Director for East and Southeast Asia, Jean D'Cunha, added: "Saying NO to violence against women is everybody's business. The partnership of civil society advocates, NetEase, UNIFEM and the rest of the UN family is a shining example of multi-sector collaboration to end violence against women. In the following months, it is important that NetEase's demonstration of

corporate social responsibility be upscaled to end violence against women and girls and advance gender equality.”

With the Chinese signatures, the total number of campaign supporters exceeds by far the **challenge grant by the UN Foundation** of \$100,000 to the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women for the first 100,000 signatures. “It is heartening that nearly 200,000 supporters have signed on to this campaign,” said Timothy E. Wirth, President of the United Nations Foundation. “The UNIFEM ‘Say NO’ campaign provides a valuable way for individuals and the international community to go on record and stand up for a world free of violence against women. Together, we can turn the tide on violence against women around the world.” The UNIFEM-managed **UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women** awards grants to innovative local initiatives in the developing world. The *Say NO* campaign encourages contributions to the Trust Fund.

**Appendix 2**  
**Bid-winning Projects**  
**Project Development Department**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>Name of the Project</b>
Support system for battered women	China Population and Development Research Center	Status of family sexual violence & exploring a mold for the prevention and suppression of family sexual violence
	Common Language, Beijing	Status of domestic violence in homosexual and bisexual group & guide of combating domestic violence
	Women's Federation of Qinlong county	Joint project on supporting battered women
	Women's Federation of Luohe city	
	Women's Federation of Xiaogan city	
	Women's Shelter of Xuzhou city	
	Women's Federation of Qingdao city	
	Women's Federation of Liaoning Province	
Maple Women's Psychological Counseling Center		
Campus campaign on combating domestic violence	Women's Federation of Danzhou city	Combating Domestic violence, preventing youth crime
	Women's legal services center of Qianxi county, Hebei province	Training on Combating Domestic Violence & Social Gender for students and teachers in middle schools and elementary schools of Qianxi county
	Law Department of Capital Normal University	Youth education on Combating Domestic Violence
Community justice and law enforcement	Women's Federation of Beijing	Establishing a law enforcement network (group) to protect women of floating population from domestic violence
	Research Office of Gansu Provincial Government	Advocacy & Intervention of Combating DV
	Women's Federation of Zhuxi County, Hubei Province	Strengthening law enforcement to enhance the protection on battered women
	Women's Federation of Hunan Province	Enhancing the judicial protection on battered women

### Appendix 3: Beneficiaries

	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>Project participants</b>	About 50,778	About 121,168
<b>Final beneficiaries</b>	About 2,693,423	About 2,528,405
<b>1. General public</b>	2,684,789	2,528,405
<b>2. Battered women and batterers of DV</b>		220
<b>3. Policemen, prosecuting attorneys, judges, staff of women's federation, teachers and students</b>	8,574	13,983
<b>4. Experts, scholars and others</b>	60	140

Notes:

1. The project participants include people who participates our activities and receive our service and materials. The total participants of the Online Signature Collection is 125 000, the number of male and female participants is calculated based on the sex ration provided by Netease.com (the cooperator of the activity).

2. The final beneficiaries include project participants and indirect beneficiaries. The website browser and the TV audience count for a big portion of the indirect beneficiaries. The browser of the Combating DV forum at Netease.com had reached over 1,000,000, among which over 10,000 had replied. The most influential TV program (40 minutes) shown on CCTV channel 12 had an audience rating of 0.35%, which lead the number of audience to around 4,000,000. It is impossible to identify the occupation of the website browser and TV audience, so we counted them as general public.